



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-9393-01-OMS]

Cross-Media Electronic Reporting: Authorized Program Revision Approval, Maine Department of Health and Human Services – Drinking Water Program (ME DHHS-DWP)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) approval of the Maine Department of Health and Human Services – Drinking Water Program (ME DHHS-DWP) request to revise/modify certain of its EPA-authorized programs to allow electronic reporting.

DATES: EPA approves the authorized program revisions / modifications as of [insert date of publication in the *Federal Register*].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shirley M. Miller, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Information Management, Mail Stop 2824T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20460, (202) 566-2908, miller.shirley@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 13, 2005, the final Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Rule (CROMERR) was published in the *Federal Register* (70 FR 59848) and codified as part 3 of title 40 of the CFR. CROMERR establishes electronic reporting as an acceptable regulatory alternative to paper reporting and establishes requirements to assure that electronic documents are as legally dependable as their paper counterparts. Subpart D of CROMERR requires that state, tribal or local government agencies that receive, or wish to begin receiving, electronic reports under their EPA-authorized programs must apply to EPA for a revision or modification of those programs and obtain EPA approval. Subpart D provides standards for such approvals based on consideration of the electronic document receiving systems that the state, tribe, or local government will use to implement the electronic reporting. Additionally, § 3.1000(b) through (e) of 40 CFR part 3, subpart D provides special procedures

for program revisions and modifications to allow electronic reporting, to be used at the option of the state, tribe or local government in place of procedures available under existing program-specific authorization regulations. An application submitted under the subpart D procedures must show that the state, tribe or local government has sufficient legal authority to implement the electronic reporting components of the programs covered by the application and will use electronic document receiving systems that meet the applicable subpart D requirements.

On December 7, 2021, the Maine Department of Health and Human Services – Drinking Water Program (ME DHHS-DWP) submitted an application titled Compliance Monitoring Data Portal (CMDP) for revisions/modifications to its EPA-approved programs under title 40 CFR to allow new electronic reporting. EPA reviewed ME DHHS-DWP's request to revise/modify its EPA-authorized programs and, based on this review, EPA determined that the application met the standards for approval of authorized program revisions/modifications set out in 40 CFR part 3, subpart D. In accordance with 40 CFR 3.1000(d), this notice of EPA's decision to approve ME DHHS-DWP's request to revise/modify its following EPA-authorized programs to allow electronic reporting under 40 CFR is being published in the *Federal Register*:

Part 142: National Primary Drinking Water Regulations Implementation (NPDWR) reporting under CFR 141

ME DHHS-DWP was notified of EPA's determination to approve its application with respect to the authorized programs listed above. Also, in this notice, EPA is informing interested persons that they may request a public hearing on EPA's action to approve the State of Maine's request to revise its authorized public water system program under 40 CFR part 142, in accordance with 40 CFR 3.1000(f). Requests for a hearing must be submitted to EPA within 30 days of publication of this *Federal Register* notice. Such requests should include the following information:

(1) The name, address, and telephone number of the individual, organization or other entity requesting a hearing;

(2) A brief statement of the requesting person's interest in EPA's determination, a brief explanation as to why EPA should hold a hearing, and any other information that the requesting person wants EPA to consider when determining whether to grant the request;

(3) The signature of the individual making the request, or, if the request is made on behalf of an organization or other entity, the signature of a responsible official of the organization or other entity.

In the event a hearing is requested and granted, EPA will provide notice of the hearing in the *Federal Register* not less than 15 days prior to the scheduled hearing date. Frivolous or insubstantial requests for hearing may be denied by EPA. Following such a public hearing, EPA will review the record of the hearing and issue an order either affirming this determination or rescinding such determination. If no timely request for a hearing is received and granted, EPA's approval of the State of Maine's request to revise its part 142—National Primary Drinking Water Regulations Implementation program to allow electronic reporting will become effective 30 days after this notice is published, pursuant to CROMERR section 3.1000(f)(4).

Dated: February 4, 2022.

Jennifer Campbell, Director,

Office of Information Management.

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